

The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 26 September 1967



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DAILY BRIEF
26 SEPTEMBER 1967

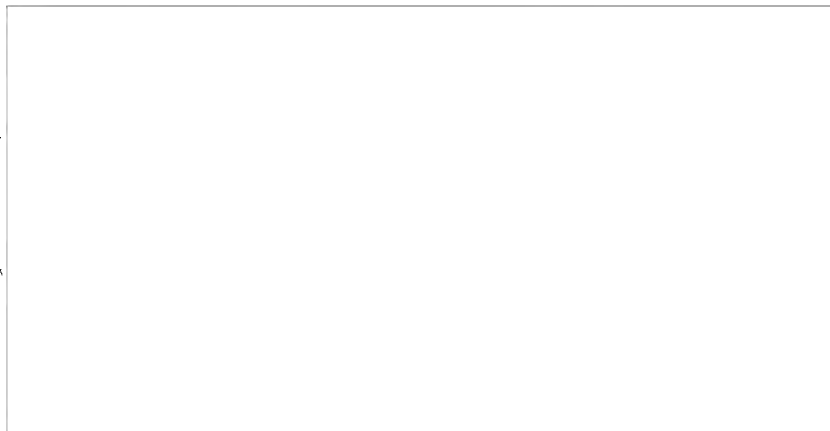
1. Hungary

Cardinal Mindszenty has "reaffirmed most positively" that he will leave the US Embassy before the scheduled 10 October arrival of ambassador-designate Hillenbrand, as a way of protesting what he considers US "appeasement" of the Kadar regime. The Cardinal says he will give himself up to the Hungarian police (who have been waiting in front of the building since 1956) if no arrangements have been made for him to leave the country.

As far as we know, the regime is unaware of the Cardinal's intention, and his sudden appearance on the sidewalk could be as awkward for the Hungarians as anyone else.

The Vatican intends to send a representative to the Cardinal, probably to urge him to stand fast until arrangements can be made for his departure and residence outside Hungary. There is no evidence, however, that the Vatican has yet begun negotiations with the Hungarians.

2. Congo



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3. Communist China

Chinese foreign trade continues to fall off, due in no small part to the turmoil of the Cultural Revolution. Trade prospects with the Soviet Union and Japan--China's two top trading partners--are particularly dim right now.

Contracts with West European companies for entire industrial plants have also been affected.

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4. Cuba

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5. India

New Delhi is expecting a record crop in the coming year--but will still need to import six to seven million tons of grain. Import needs will be even higher if the winter rains fail to produce a good spring harvest, usually about a quarter of the total.

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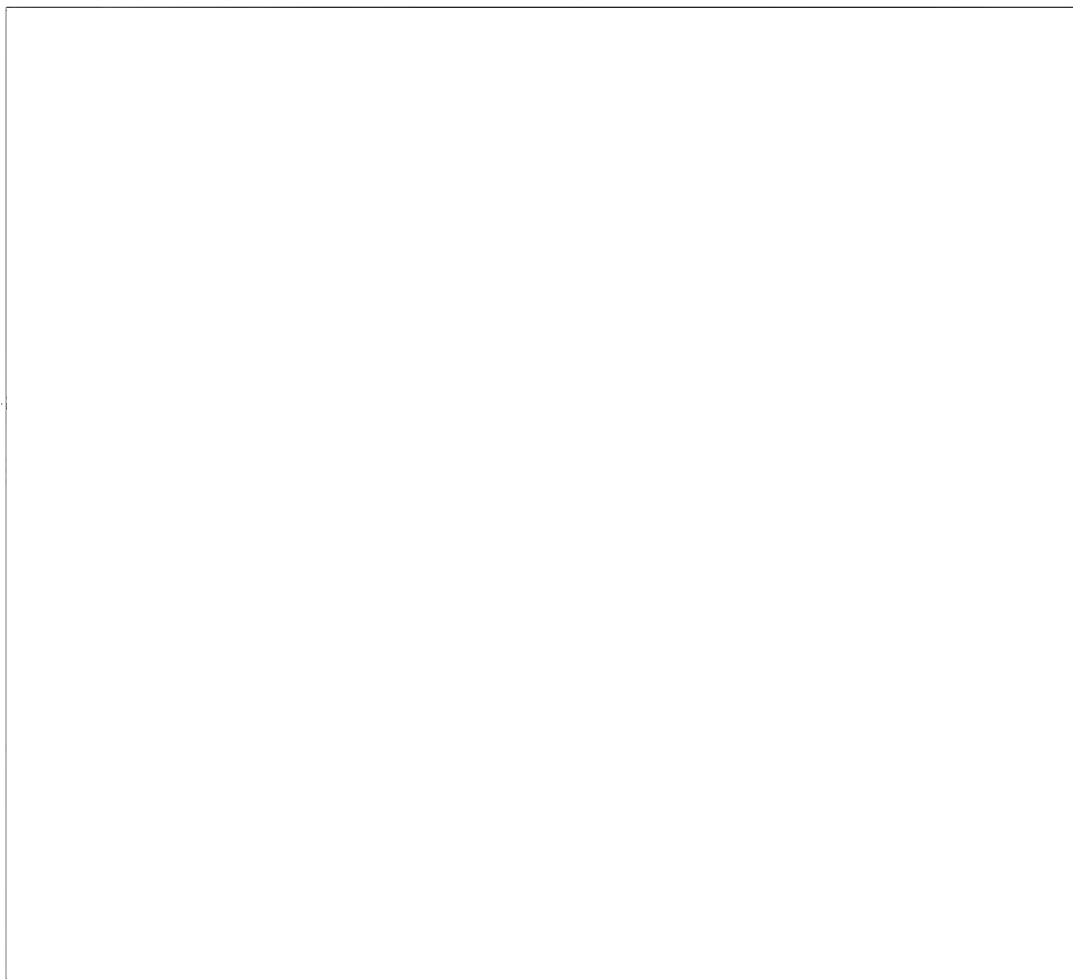
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SPECIAL DAILY REPORT ON NORTH VIETNAM

FOR THE PRESIDENT'S EYES ONLY

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Special Daily Report on North Vietnam
for the President's Eyes Only

26 September 1967

Observations in North Vietnam: [redacted]
miscellaneous observations about life in North Viet-
nam [redacted]

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[redacted] an order was issued on 25 August
for all people except those engaged in essential ac-
tivities to evacuate Hanoi because of the increasing
frequency of air raids. [redacted] most government
offices had only skeleton staffs; with the rest dis-
persed outside Hanoi. Other signs of dispersal in-
cluded the lack of animals at the zoo, the dilapidated
condition of children's playgrounds, and the removal of
original works from the art museum.

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Hanoi Comments on Soviet Aid Agreement: A North Vietnamese editorial of 24 September was effusive over the "valuable, great, sincere, and efficacious" support of Hanoi and the Viet Cong by the Soviet Union. In comparison with a similar editorial just about a year ago, marking a previous Soviet aid agreement, the current piece is an even more maudlin expression of Hanoi's thankfulness.

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